STATE OF ALASKA

VETERANS AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY &

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State Implementing Individual Assistance Program for Victims of Bering Strait Sea Storm Disaster

(Anchorage, AK) – The Governor's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) is implementing the State Individual Assistance Program for those who suffered damages and/or losses to personal and real property during the Bering Strait Sea Storm Disaster that hit the west coast of Alaska October 18th through the 24th. The affected areas include the Northwest Arctic Borough, the City of Nome, the Bering Strait Regional Education Attendance Area (REAA), the Lower Yukon REAA, the Lower Kuskokwim REAA, the Kashunamiut REAA, and the Pribilof Islands REAA.

"Individuals and families in these areas who incurred damages or losses during this time period may be eligible for State assistance through this program," said Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM spokesman. "If an individual or family does qualify, they could receive a maximum of \$5,000 for property repairs or replacement of lost items."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) previously approved a Federal Public Assistance Program for public facilities and businesses in the Northwest Arctic Borough and the Bering Strait REAA, to include the City of Nome. Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program projects will also be developed in these areas. Governor Murkowski has requested the Federal government amend their disaster declaration to include the additional areas of the State.

Additional information on when and how individuals and families can apply for the State Individual Assistance Program will follow in the coming days.

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